

**FILED**  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF PLACER

**AUG 24 2021**

JAKE CHATTERS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER & CLERK  
By: *[Signature]* Cruz, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PLACER

STANDING ORDER OF THE PLACER  
COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

No.: 21-10

STANDING ORDER RE COVID-19  
PANDEMIC: ORDERS  
RE: DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIED  
TRAFFIC MATTERS

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact throughout our Nation, State, and Placer County. This court, in an effort to reduce the potential spread of the virus in our community, suspended most traffic infraction hearings during the periods of March 16 to June 13, 2020, July 13, 2020 to February 26, 2021, and August 30, 2021 to October 1, 2021. These postponements were made to reduce contact between individuals from different households and support the goals of national, state, and public health officials. Traffic infractions are the single highest volume of cases and bring a large number of individuals to the court's facilities.

This court implemented physical distancing protocols, implemented remote appearances in nearly all case types, and undertook other recommended COVID-19 mitigation measures to reduce the potential spread

1 of the COVID-19 virus at court facilities from March 2020 to June 2021. These  
2 efforts proactively reduced the total number of individuals who may enter  
3 court facilities and courtrooms at any one time. Implemented technology  
4 solutions supplement these efforts by allowing remote participation. Limited  
5 bandwidth and other technology considerations limit the court's ability to  
6 support the high volume traffic calendars and also support the court's and  
7 litigants' needs in all other case types.

8 To assist in addressing the backlog of traffic cases, the court  
9 implemented a Saturday traffic court and evening traffic remote video  
10 hearing options in March to June 2021. Day-time traffic hearings were also  
11 offered via voluntary remote appearances beginning in June 2021.

12 The court has again postponed traffic-related matters set between  
13 August 30, 2021 to October 1, 2021 through Standing Order 21-09 due to  
14 the impact of the COVID-19 Delta variant. The Delta variant of the COVID-  
15 19 virus has increased infection rates to over 30 individuals per 100,000  
16 population as of August 19, 2021, compared to under 5 per 100,000 on or  
17 about June 21, 2021. As of August 19, 2021, according to Placer County  
18 Public Health, a total of 199 individuals are hospitalized in Placer County due  
19 to COVID-19 with 38 individuals in the intensive care units. Hospital bed  
20 capacity is below 20 adult hospital/surgical beds and there are fewer than  
21 ten intensive care beds open to new patients in Placer County hospitals.

22 Although remote appearance options will be available for the  
23 postponed cases, the court anticipates most cases will be reset to a future  
24 date, creating large calendars when appearances resume in October 2021.

25 Therefore, in an effort to ensure the court can remain open and  
26 accessible to all; and

27 Therefore, to support the goals of public health to mitigate the spread  
28 of COVID-19; and

1       Therefore, to ensure alleged violators are held appropriately  
2 accountable for responding to their matter before the court; and

3       Therefore, to appropriately balance court resources, public health, and  
4 accountability for alleged traffic violations, the court makes the following  
5 orders effective August 30, 2021 through October 1, 2021:


- 6       • **DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS:** The court clerk is  
7 hereby directed to dismiss any pending traffic infraction in  
8 furtherance of justice, pursuant to Penal Code section 1385(a),  
9 where all of the following apply:

- 10       (1) There are no felony or misdemeanor charges on the same  
11 case.
- 12       (2) The defendant is not alleged to have exceeded the posted  
13 speed by more than 10 miles per hour if charged with a  
14 Vehicle Code section 22348(a), Vehicle Code section  
15 22349(a), Vehicle Code section 22349(b) or Vehicle Code  
16 section 22350 violation.
- 17       (3) The defendant is not alleged to have violated Vehicle Code  
18 section 22348(b).
- 19       (4) The case has not previously been heard before any judicial  
20 officer of this court.
- 21       (5) The court has not previously issued a failure to appear notice  
22 on the case.
- 23       (6) The defendant has not previously pled or been found guilty to  
24 any of the offenses listed on the case.
- 25       (7) The defendant has not made any previous payment on the  
26 case.
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- 28

- 1 (8) The defendant has zero points on their California Department  
2 of Motor Vehicles driving record as of the date the citation was  
3 filed by the court.
- 4 (9) The defendant has no prior history of felony or misdemeanor  
5 driving under the influence or reckless driving noted on their  
6 California Department of Motor Vehicles record, as made  
7 available to the court, as of the date the citation was filed by  
8 the court.
- 9 (10) The defendant responds to the citation by contacting the court  
10 clerk's office between the aforementioned dates or appears  
11 for their traffic hearing or the clerk's office would otherwise  
12 postpone the citation pursuant to Standing Order 21-09.

13 IT IS SO ORDERED.

14  
15 DATED: 8/24/2021

16   
17 HONORABLE ALAN V. PINESCHI  
18 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
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